

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-2, 10-11, 15 and 18 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 3-4, 6-9, 12 and 16-17 as follows.

Please add new Claim 19 as follows.

- 1-2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim ~~1~~16, wherein the at least one detector is two detectors.
4. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim ~~1~~16, wherein the detector includes a comparator.
5. (Original) The apparatus as defined in Claim 3, wherein the two detectors each include a comparator.
6. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim ~~1~~16, wherein the function select mechanism includes a microprocessor.
7. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim ~~1~~17, wherein the interface is a Universal Serial Bus.
8. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim ~~1~~17, wherein the first entity and second entity are both a digital camera.
9. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim ~~1~~17, wherein the first entity is a digital camera and the second entity is a printer.
- 10-11. (Cancelled)
12. (Currently amended) The apparatus as defined in Claim ~~11~~16, wherein the function select mechanism includes a field programmable gate array or gate array.
13. (Previously presented) A method of selecting one function from a first function and a second function in a first entity, and with respect to a second entity, in data communication with the first entity, that has at least one of the first and second functions, the method comprising:
 - activating a first power source to the first entity;
 - connecting the first entity to the second entity via an interface;

detecting at least one voltage on the interface by connecting a first resistor between the interface and a second power source;
determining first if the detected voltage is over a threshold;
if so, connecting a second resistor between the interface and the ground;
detecting a divided voltage derived from the second power source and a ratio of the second resistor to the second resistor plus the first resistor;
determining second if the detected divided voltage is over the threshold;
if so, selecting the first function;
if the detected voltage is not over the threshold at the first determination, deactivating the first power source;
connecting a third resistor between the interface and the second power source;
waiting for a specified packet to be sent; and
if the packet is received, selecting the second function.

14. (Previously presented) The method as defined in Claim 13, wherein each of the first function and the second function comprises one of a host function and a device function.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) An apparatus for selecting one function from two functions, comprising:

a first entity having a host function, a device function, at least one detector and a function select mechanism, wherein the host function is associated with sending a first instruction and the device function is associated with operating the first entity in response to a second instruction;

a second entity having a device function, wherein the device function of the second entity is associated with operating the second entity in response to the first instruction and wherein the second entity does not have a host function; and

an interface configured to connect the first entity and second entity, the interface being connected to the at least one detector;

wherein the at least one detector is configured to detect the device function of the second entity, and the function select mechanism is configured to select the host function

from the host and device functions in the first entity in response to the detected function of the at least one detector.

17. (Currently amended) An apparatus for selecting one function from two functions comprising:

a first entity having a host function, a device function, at least one detector and a function select mechanism;

a second entity having a host function, ~~and~~ a device function, at least one detector and a function select mechanism; and

an interface configured to connect the first entity and second entity, the interface being connected to the at least one detector;

wherein the at least one detector of the first entity is configured to detect a function of the second entity, and the function select mechanism of the first entity is configured to select one function from the ~~first~~host and ~~second~~device functions in the first entity in response to the detected function of the at least one detector of the first entity,

and wherein the at least one detector of the second entity is configured to detect a function of the first entity, and the function select mechanism of the second entity is configured to select one function from the host and device functions in the second entity in response to the detected function of the at least one detector of the second entity.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (New) An apparatus for selecting one function from two functions, comprising:

a first entity having a first host function, a first device function, at least one detector and a function select mechanism, wherein the first host function is associated with sending a first instruction and the first device function is associated with operating the first entity in response to a second instruction;

a second entity having only one of a second host function and a second device function, wherein the second host function is associated with sending the second instruction to the first entity and the second device function is associated with operating the second entity in response to the first instruction; and

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an interface configured to connect the first entity and second entity, the interface being connected to the at least one detector;

wherein the at least one detector is configured to detect the function of the second entity, and the function select mechanism is configured to select one function from the first host and device functions in the first entity in response to the detected function of the at least one detector.

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SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Exhibits and/or Demonstrations

None

Identification of Claims Discussed

Claims 1, 10-11 and 16-17

Identification of Prior Art Discussed

Oguma (U.S. Patent No. 6,516,205)

Proposed Amendments

Same as in the "Amendments to Claims" section except for Claim 15 (cancelled)

Principal Arguments and Other Matters

Oguma does not disclose at least one detector which detects a function of the second entity. In addition, Oguma does not disclose the function select mechanism which selects one of the two functions in response to the detected function of the at least one detector. Claim 16 recites the detector and function select mechanism of Claim 1, and additionally recites a first entity having a host function and a device function, and a second entity having a device function. Claim 17 recites the detector and the function select mechanism of Claim 1, and additionally recites a first entity having a host function and a device function, and a second entity having a host function and a device function. Claims 16 and 17 are allowable for at least the same reasons as in Claims 1, 10 and 11 and Oguma does not show these added limitations.

In addition, Applicant's attorney noted that Oguma shows the portable terminal (5) as having functionality shown in Figure 3, and that the Examiner's use of the device (6) instead of the terminal (5) in rejection is incorrect.

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Results of Interview

The Examiner suggested that Applicant file a request for continued examination (RCE) in reply to this final Office Action and contact him to confirm patentability of the claims.